



NEWS RELEASE

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Kernan awards Stant Manufacturing Inc. training grants to upgrade workforce

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Gov. Joe Kernan announced today that one of Indiana's leading automotive parts manufacturer has been awarded two grants to upgrade the skills of its workforce.

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development has committed a total of \$51,307 to Connersville's Stant Manufacturing Inc. through the Indiana@Work and Incumbent Worker Training programs in order to upgrade the skills of new and existing workers.

"Through these training programs, the state is aggressively preparing our businesses and workers to grow as the state's economy continues to improve," Kernan said. "Training results in a skilled workforce as well as an efficient and competitive company, and that's why we are pleased to support Stant Manufacturing in their efforts."

The company requested \$10,648 from the Indiana@Work program and with this funding, will profile five occupations and assess the skills of up to 30 job applicants. The five positions being profiled include assembly technician, material handler, quality technician, maintenance and manufacturing engineer positions.

In addition, Stant was awarded a \$40,659 Incumbent Worker Training grant. The grant, along with a company match of \$36,593, will be used to upgrade the skill levels of 11 journey persons through a variety of courses offered by Ivy Tech State College.

"Both programs allow us to make significant investments in our employees," said Donna Templeton, the Stant Manufacturing's human resources assistant. "These investments provide our company with an opportunity to grow and become more competitive within the automotive industry."

Employing 275 workers at its Fayette County plant, Stant Manufacturing Inc. produces automotive fuel, radiator and oil filler caps, on-board refueling vapor recovery valves, and pressure, vacuum and fuel system testers. In addition to the fuel system components, Stant also markets a broad line of cooling system components. Stant Manufacturing is a subsidiary of the Tomkins Industrial and Automotive group, a leading designer, manufacturer and distributor of a broad range of automotive parts and tools.

Indiana@Work, a joint effort between the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Indiana Department of Commerce, builds around Energize Indiana's four targeted sectors: advanced manufacturing, information technology, life sciences and high-tech distribution. Available through the state's WorkOne and WorkOne Express Centers, Indiana@Work has made skills assessments available to nearly 20,000 Hoosiers and companies statewide have requested more than 400 job profiles since its inception in January.

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The centerpiece of Indiana@Work is WorkKeys®, a comprehensive system developed by ACT® that determines and categorizes the skills necessary for a specific job. It also matches the individual's skill level to particular job requirements and serves as a foundation for training programs that close skill gaps and develop a more capable workforce.

Job profiling, the employer segment of WorkKeys®, helps businesses identify the skills and skill levels needed for workers to be successful on the job. Professional job analysts work with experienced employees to define the duties of each occupation and together, they create specific job profiles.

The Incumbent Worker Training grant program was designed to create a world-class workforce in Indiana, through continuous improvement to the skill levels of Hoosier workers. All Indiana businesses are eligible to apply for this grant opportunity.

Through its various programs and initiatives, DWD is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, visit www.workforce.IN.gov, call 1-888-WorkOne or stop by any WorkOne Center.

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